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A circular black and white stamp. The text "OIP" is at the top, "IAP90" is at the top right, "JUN 16 2006" is in the center, and "PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE" is at the bottom. The word "re" is partially visible at the bottom right.

~~Re~~ Application of:

[illegible]

Examiner: Mehta, Bhavesh M.

For: DEVICE AND METHOD FOR
EXTENDING CHARACTER
REGION IN AN IMAGE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97-1.98, the Applicants herewith transmit the attached Form PTO/SB/08a, including copies of the documents which were cited in a European Search Report (issue date of March 21, 2006) with respect to related Patent Application No. 04002039.8-2218, and which may be deemed material to the examination of the above-identified application. A copy of the European Search Report is also enclosed for the Examiner's convenience. Copies of the cited U.S. Patent documents are omitted.

Since the present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to issuance of a first office action on the merits, no certification under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is believed to be required. However, the Applicants do certify under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1) that each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, the attached European Search Report, not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement. However, should any fees be required, the Director is hereby authorized to charge the fees to Deposit Account No. 18-2220.



The Examiner is requested to consider the attached documents in connection with the above-identified application, and to return a copy of the Form PTO/SB/08a to the Applicants with the Examiner's initials in the spaces provided.

Submission of this Information Disclosure Statement does not constitute an admission by the Applicants as to the materiality of the attached documents to the application, nor do the Applicants waive any right to challenge the validity of the documents as prior art should such action be deemed appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: June 16, 2006

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/765,071
Filing Date	January 28, 2004
First Named Inventor	Chae-Whan Lim et al.
Art Unit	2624
Examiner Name	Mehta, Bhavesh M.
Attorney Docket Number	46245

Sheet 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document Number Number-Kind Code (if known)	Publication Date MM-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		U.S. 5,995,659	11-1999	Chakraborty et al.	
		U.S. 5,995,657	11-1999	Sunakawa	
		U.S. 5,809,183	09-1998	Serizawa et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document Country Code-Number- Kind Code (if known)	Publication Date MM-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T
		EP 1 215 626 A1	06-2002	Jiebo Luo		X
		EP 0 824 246 A3	06-2002	James Bollman et al.		X
		EP 0 863 475 A3	02-2001	Isamu Haneda et al.		X
		EP 0 863 475 A2	09-1998	Isamu Haneda et al.		X
		EP 0 824 246 A2	02-1998	James Bollman et al.		X

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publishers, city and/or country where published	T
		R. CATTONI et al., "Geometric Layout Analysis Techniques For Document Image Understanding: A Review", ITC-IRST Technical Report, January 1998, pages 1-68, Trento Italy.	
		W. SCHERL et al., "Automatic Separation Of Text, Graphic And Picture Segments In Printed Material", Pattern Recognition In Practice, Siemens AG, Zentrale Forschung und Entwicklung, Lehrstuhl für Nachrichtentechnik, Technische Universität München, 21 May 1980, pages 213-221 and page 272, Vol. PROC. 1980, May 1980, North Holland Publishing Co., Amsterdam NL.	

Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered